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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re patent application of:

Möckel, et al.

Appl. No.: 09/725,178

Filed: November 29, 2000

For: **Novel Nucleotide Sequences
Encoding the gpm Gene**

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Hutson, R.

Atty. Dkt. 21123/273989

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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FEB 28 2002

Response to Restriction Requirement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 28, 2002, in which the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement on the claims in the above-captioned application, Applicants hereby elect the inventions of restriction Group I. This includes claims 1-7 and 21-23, directed to an isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2. It is respectfully requested that the claims in the non-elected restriction groups be cancelled without prejudice.

This election is made without traverse.

Applicants do not believe that any fee is required for the filing of the present document. Nevertheless, if one or more extensions of time are required to prevent the application from going abandoned, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned and any fees therefor may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 03-3975, under Order No. 21123/273989.

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If the Examiner believes that a phone call may help to expedite this matter, he is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (703) 905-2173.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

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